[redacted]

A2

14. (amended) A method according to claim 13 wherein the arachidonic acid assay comprises assaying tritium labeled arachidonic acid release from said indicator cells.

Remarks

The status of the present application as a 371 of PCT/US00/1616486 has been inserted into the opening paragraph of the specification. The amendment to the claims is to correct an error in numbering in the international application.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A: Mark-up of amended specification paragraphs

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(amended) Cross-Reference to Related Application

This is a 371 of PCT/US00/16486, filed June 15, 2000 and published in English on December 21, 2000 as International Publication No. WO 00/77245, which claims the [The] benefit of the filing date of U.S. provisional patent application Ser. No. 60/139,569, filed June 16, 1999 [is hereby claimed] pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 119(e). The entire disclosure of the aforesaid provisional application is incorporated herein by reference.

APPENDIX B: Mark-up of amended claims

[12]11. (amended) A method for screening a test substance for COX-2 inhibitory activity comprising:

(a) contacting the test substance with indicator cells which express a GTPase-deficient mutant form of the α-subunit of protein G12, which mutant α-subunit has the capacity to induce the production of arachidonic acid and COX-2 in the indicator cells; and

(b) determining the level of arachidonic acid provided by the indicator cells in the presence and absence of the test substance, an increase in the level of arachidonic acid provided by the indicator cells in the presence of the test substance indicating that the test substance has COX-2 inhibitory activity.

[13]12. (amended) A method according to claim [12]11 wherein the G12 protein α-subunit mutant comprises the Q229L mutation.

[14]13. (amended) A method according to claim [13]12 wherein the arachidonic acid level is assayed in the media surrounding the indicator cells, in the indicator cells or in a component of the indicator cells.

[15]14. (amended) A method according to claim [14]13 wherein the arachidonic acid assay comprises assaying tritium labeled arachidonic acid release from said indicator cells.